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REQUEST

FOR

**CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

PATENTS & TRADEMARKS

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/600,879
Filing Date	August 14, 2000
First Named Inventor	Wolfgang Schmutz
Group Art Unit	3652
Examiner Name	J.W. Keenan
Attorney Docket Number	

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply (Response)
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 10-1213
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) - \$750.00
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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GROUP 3600**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Felix J. D'Ambrosio	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	25,721
Signature		Date	March 10, 2003

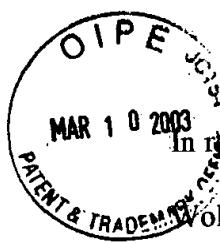
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	
Signature	

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03/19/03
#15



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Wolfgang Schmutz et al

Appln. No. : 09/600,879

Filed : August 14, 2000

For : DEVICE FOR LOADING SUBSTRATES
INTO AND UNLOADING THEM FROM A
CLEAN ROOM

)
)
) Art Unit: 3652
)
) Ex: F. E. Werner and
) J. W. Keenan
)
)

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GROUP 3600

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following remarks are being submitted in conjunction with the RCE being filed on even date herewith and addresses the final rejections set forth in the Office Action of August 8 2002.

Rejections

Claims 22-42 are pending and were re-examined. These were finally rejected as follows: (1) Claims 22-42 as indefinite under 35 USC 112, second paragraph; and (2) Claims 22-29 and 31-38 as unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Bonora et al in view of Huang et al.

Remarks

(1)

The examiner's specific comments were considered in detail in the Response filed